

Unsafe at Any Speed President Gerald R. Ford



WELL, I STILL
HAVE KING-
TIMAHOE...
AND WHAT
THE HELL:
\$60,000 A YEAR
LIFETIME PENSION,
\$96,000 A YEAR
GOVERNMENT
ALLOWANCES,
FREE OFFICE
SPACE...THINGS
COULD BE WORSE.



LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE

#634 AUGUST 10, 1974

Packet #634
August 10, 1974

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HELP!!!

By now, your August LNS bill must have arrived. It's no joke,
very few of our subscribers have sent anything these past couple of
months. We need everybody to send us money this month. We know the
summer is a tough time, but please really try to raise that money.
thanks, LNS.

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If you are missing a page or get a badly printed graphic, let us know and we'll send you another one soon.

(See graphics to go with this story.)

"I HAVE VOTED CONSISTENTLY AS A CONSERVATIVE":
GERALD FORD BECOMES THE 38TH PRESIDENT

LIBERATION News Service

Shocking events demand that the Administration take the wraps off our military forces in Southeast Asia by unleashing devastating air and sea power against all significant military targets in North Vietnam.

--Gerald Ford, 1965

Wiretapping and electronic eavesdropping worry all Americans who prize their privacy. Properly used, these are essential weapons to those who guard our Nation's security.

--Gerald Ford, 1967

[The election of Richard Nixon] would mean that laws already on the books would be enforced. Criminals and crime bosses would come under massive attack led by a Republican President and a Republican Attorney General.

--Gerald Ford, 1968

WASHINGTON (LNS)--After more than five and a half years of associating the evils of American policy--foreign and domestic--with the name Richard M. Nixon, we awake on August 9 to find Gerald Ford in the White House.

Although many will encourage us to breathe a sigh of relief and say, "Well, that's over," thankful that the "Constitutional process" has worked as its founders intended, the important question remains --"Who is Gerald Ford?" In what way will this man who has never faced a national election govern the country? How, if at all, is he different from Richard Nixon?

Having uncovered most of the Bebe Rebozos in Nixon's life--detailing the crimes, the coverups, and the coverups of the coverups--we must now search for new skeletons in the White House closets. The job will not be difficult.

To hear most of those who have had contact with Gerald Ford speak, it would appear that his biggest vice is simply that he is faced with a job bigger than his capabilities. Representative Michael J. Harrington (D-Mass) once said of Ford, "He's simply a nice guy who has demonstrated no real capacity to govern."

Referring to Ford's football playing days, Lyndon Johnson said of the then House Minority Leader, "Too bad, too bad--that's what happens when you play football without a helmet on."

And even Richard Nixon, the man who put Ford in line for the Presidency, hoping perhaps that it would stall impeachment forces, exclaimed, "Can you see Gerald Ford sitting in this chair?"

But it is impossible to dismiss a man who, for 25 years, fought every piece of progressive social legislation ever to get on to the House floor, simply by questioning his intellectual abilities. It is an oversimplification to label Ford, the man who led the Congressional hawks arguing during the 1960's that the U.S. was not conducting an "all-out" war in Vietnam, a witless boob.

"Sometimes I think Jerry...really believes there is no honorable alternative to his party's position," said representative Richard Bolling (D-Mo.). But the truth lies somewhat closer to journalist Peter Rand's assertion that, "It is just possible, however, that Ford is a fairly bright man of no integrity at all."

Since first being elected to the House of Representatives from Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1948, Ford has steadfastly opposed civil rights legislation "on Constitutional and other grounds." Though his voting record on civil rights legislation is not as bad as you might expect, it is only because of devious behind the scenes activity during the formation of the legislation.

According to one report, "His habit was to vote to kill or weaken civil rights bills in their formative stages, but go on record in favor of them in the final vote." (Black Congresspeople voted almost unanimously against his confirmation as Vice President.)

"I have voted consistently as a conservative in financial affairs," Ford said in 1973. "I think that is the right policy." Certainly this is no idle boast by the new president. According to the report on Ford's Congressional voting record prepared for the House Judiciary Committee considering Ford's nomination as Vice President, "Ford's position on minimum wage legislation has been fairly consistent...since 1949, he has consistently opposed measures proposing increases in the minimum wage..."

Similarly, the report notes that "Ford opposed the establishment of the Food Stamp Program in 1964" and, in 1971, "Ford voted against an amendment to establish a comprehensive child development program to provide educational, nutritional, and health services free of charge to disadvantaged children."

Ford claims to oppose such social legislation on the grounds that he opposes "spending sprees." Yet, Ford has been a most vocal advocate of increased military spending.

In 1965, according to the House report on Ford, both he and then-Representative Melvin Laird, urged Congress "To cut back on domestic expenditures in order to meet the growing expenses of the Vietnam war."

In August, 1967, Ford rose on the House floor to make a major speech in which he labeled the Johnson Vietnam policy "no-win". During that speech he urged increased use of air power and a blockade of Haiphong harbor. Appalled at what he said was a present policy "That produced a stalemate, Ford blurted out: "Is this any way to run a war?"

Two years later, arguing for increased spending in Southeast Asia at the expense of domestic programs, Ford said, "We've got to maintain our guns. We must reduce the butter."

Ford describes himself as an "internationalist" on foreign policy, meaning he favors a strong U.S. presence around the world. In 1970, when U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) official Dan (#634)

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more

Mitrione was kidnapped and executed by Tupamaro guerrillas in Uruguay for his role in teaching torture to Uruguayan police, Ford rose on the House floor to defend the activities of USAID in Latin America.

"Indeed he (Mitrione) was trying to help the police assume their proper role in Uruguayan society," said Ford, adding, "It is suggested by some that this tragedy raises questions as to whether the United States should engage in this activity. I submit that it proves how important it is for us to persevere in this essential task."

And to those who would maintain that the "Watergate mentality" will leave the White House with Nixon, a quick look at Ford's position on wiretapping, surveillance and force to deal with dissent will set the record straight.

In 1970 Ford told the House that "Idle talk about repression contributes nothing to the sober resolution of serious problems." According to the House analysis of Ford's voting record, "he has strongly supported wiretapping, preventive detention and no-knock legislation." As for labor strikes, the House report states that "since 1967, at least, (Ford) is clearly on the side of government intervention in certain instances of strike."

During the days of mass anti-war protest Ford stated, "I want the people who are interested in strong student unrest legislation to know that I am with them," adding "we can handle student unrest proposals in the near future and we will with stronger provisions."

On May 25, 1969, he supported withholding financial aid to students involved in campus protests. And, after Washington, D.C. police illegally rounded up thousands of demonstrators during May Day activities in 1971, Ford went on record as saying, "I congratulate the authorities for handling the situation as skillfully as they have."

And just in case someone tried to tell you there is a "new" Jerry Ford, he recently stated, "I've cast more than 4,000 votes [in Congress], and I can't think of one that I'd change."

Though continually arguing to cut domestic spending for lack of funds, Ford argued long and hard in 1973 against a tax reform bill that would plug loopholes that corporations and the wealthy take advantage of.

"I am opposed to wholesale repeal of so-called tax loopholes," adding that he would like to see some already removed "put back on the books." And showing that his constituency will differ little from Nixon's, Ford complained, "Most members of Congress don't realize the burdens that are placed upon business by the legislation they pass."

Fortune magazine, in a March, 1974, article assured their readership that a Ford Presidency would not be the worst thing for them:

"Nobody could call Gerald Ford 'anti-business'. The chief lobbyists for Ford Motor Company and U.S. Steel are among his closest personal friends. He supported federal aid to bail out Lockheed. He feels that Richard McLaren, Nixon's first antitrust chief,

was 'overzealous' in his attempts to expand anti-trust laws to cover conglomerates. 'Bigness,' said Ford, 'is no sin.'"

Which raises the obvious question: Will we really notice the difference with a new man in the White House? Ford has expressed total commitment to letting Secretary of State Henry Kissinger run foreign policy exactly the same as he did for Nixon. As for domestic policy, little change from the Nixon stand can be expected.

While most Wall Street observers feel the change from Nixon to Ford will produce an immediate short-term market surge, they warn that it will simply be a sigh of relief not really reflecting the true state of the economy.

Richard M. Furlaud, President of Squibb Corp., commented, "While Watergate has been getting the headlines, inflation has become...the number one problem and it can't be solved just by a change in leadership."

Gardner Ackley, professor of political economy at the University of Michigan, said of Ford, "he is by nature conservative and I would be surprised if he has come up with a policy of his own yet....In the absence of that," Ackley continued, "he'll keep going with what there is."

Certainly, Ford's 25 years in the House tells us what to expect from the new president in dealing with the nation's faltering economy: an attempt to stop inflation by cutting government spending, particularly in social welfare areas. Where his priorities lie have always been clear. "The \$55 billion which the President proposes for non-military spending," he said in 1966, "can and must be reduced."

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XEROX DEVELOPS SPRAY TO PREVENT "MISUSE" OF COPYING MACHINES

NEW YORK (LNS)--Three years ago a government researcher handling classified material contributed significantly to anti-war efforts when he made public documents detailing the extent and nature of U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia. Over a period of months, Daniel Ellsberg removed the reports, which became known as the Pentagon Papers, from his office, made xerox copies of them and then returned the originals.

According to a recent Xerox Corporation Research and Development Newsletter, steps are being taken to prevent future Daniel Ellsbergs from undertaking similar actions. The deterrent is an invisible spray which can make any document immune from copying. The spray contains a fluorescent dye coating that "confuses" copying machines.

According to the Xerox Newsletter, the product was developed to prevent the "misuse" of copying machines.

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(Thanks to Crawdaddy for this short.)

(see packet #600 for article on pesticides contaminating Mississippi chickens)

SHELL PESTICIDES CITED AS "IMMINENT HAZARD": ALDRIN & DIELDRIN SUSPENDED AFTER FOUR YEARS OF DEBATE

WASHINGTON (LNS)--In a major victory for environmental and consumer groups, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finally agreed to suspend two widely used and highly toxic pesticides--aldrin and dieldrin--until a final decision on their hazardousness is reached in cancellation hearings which have been held periodically since December 1970.

Both chemicals have been linked to increased risk of cancer. One estimate, based on laboratory studies of animals, suggests that if the pesticides are used at present levels for another year to 18 months, as many as 230,000 Americans might ultimately develop cancer as a result.

A spokesman for the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)--a public interest group in Washington actively fighting for cancellation--termed the pesticides "one of the very major environmental health hazards" emphasizing that they could turn out to be as hazardous as cigarettes.

Marketed by the Shell Chemical Company (a subsidiary of Shell Oil) aldrin and dieldrin are used primarily to protect corn plants from soil insects. Although two separate pesticides, after only a few months in the environment, aldrin degrades into dieldrin, the more stable form.

Dieldrin--like DDT which was banned in 1972--is a highly persistent hydrocarbon which accumulates in the fatty tissue of animals who feed on the grain. Tests conducted by the Food and Drug Administration in fiscal year 1973 found "measurable amounts" of dieldrin in 83% of all dairy products sampled, 88% of all garden fruits sampled, and 96% of all meat, fish and poultry.

Even more alarming, samples of human tissue taken during surgery and autopsies in 1971 showed that 99.5% of those tested had detectable residues of dieldrin in their tissue, an increase of 3% from 1970.

"Dieldrin is one of the most potent carcinogens thus far tested in mice," asserted a spokesman for EDF. "If you extrapolate laboratory results to humans you get horrible figures--you'd expect certainly hundreds of thousands, probably millions of people to get cancer during their lives."

Cancellation of a pesticide's registration is a lengthy process and unless immediate suspension is called for at the same time, the chemicals can continue to be produced, sold and used throughout the cancellation hearings. In fact, figures show that the use of aldrin actually increased during this period--from 8.9 million pounds in 1970, to 11.8 million pounds in 1972.

Even in March 1974, when several million Mississippi chickens were found to be so highly contaminated with dieldrin as to pose a cancer threat, the EPA banned the chickens, but not the chemical.

fore a House subcommittee headed by Jamie Whitten (D-Mass), long regarded as the pesticide industry's closest friend in Congress. Even the Washington Post has stressed that these political considerations are probably responsible for the EPA's slowness in action.

Even though the EPA has finally decided to go ahead with suspension, Shell can challenge the suspension order in an Administrative hearing. And even if this hearing reaffirms the suspension decision, Shell can take the matter to a Court of Appeals--which is likely to prove more responsive to their position. In the past, the courts has taken a very restrictive interpretation of "imminent hazard", requiring more than animal evidence.

Shell's defense certainly will hinge largely on this question of what constitutes an "imminent hazard"--the only grounds, under the present law, for immediate suspension. Shell has argued that although dieldrin has been shown to be carcinogenic in animals, there are as yet no cases of humans being affected.

The problem, however, is that it takes 20 to 30 years to produce cancer in humans.

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SAIGON "BIG WIGS" DISMANTLE NEW U.S. JETS FOR SALE ON BLACK MARKET

WASHINGTON (LNS)-- Two South Vietnamese newspapers reported recently that new jet fighters sent to Saigon as part of the U.S. military aid program are being dismantled and sold for scrap metal on the black market there.

According to Dan Chu, President Thieu's official party paper, and Dien Tin, a Catholic opposition paper, a police raid in the Hoc Mon district near Saigon recently uncovered an illegal scrap metal depot filled with military equipment. Among the items found were the wings of at least 15 A-37 aircraft.

The A-37 is a modern, twin-engine jet fighter worth about \$500,000. During recent years, particularly during the last few months before the January, 1973 ceasefire agreement, the U.S. sent large numbers of A-37s to South Vietnam.

This is the first public report that shipments of U.S. military aid have been directly diverted into South Vietnam's substantial black market. It also seems that high ranking government officials are involved. Dien Tin makes this guarded suggestion, presumably to avoid censorship:

"We have learned that all these scrap metals which belong to the military have been illegally sold to an organization specializing in such exports. Several mysterious bigwigs are involved in this organization."

Rep. Les Aspin (D-Wis.) has called for a full scale inspection by the General Accounting Office into the black market operation which Aspin called "more than just another sleazy example of graft and corruption in Saigon."

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PLEASE PAY YOUR AUGUST BILLS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANKS!!

[See graphics in the last packet (#633) to go with the following story.]

11 ALABAMA PRISON ACTIVISTS FRAMED ON MURDER CHARGES; TRIAL SET FOR OCTOBER

BREWTON, Alabama (LNS)--A series of murder trials almost unknown outside the state are scheduled to begin in October in a small-town courthouse in Southern Alabama. The 11 black defendants -- known as the Atmore-Holman Brothers -- are members of a prisoner group called Inmates for Action (IFA) which formed several years ago to stage demonstrations and work stoppages to demand basic rights within the prison.

The state of Alabama has viewed the case with such importance that State Attorney General William Baxley will personally prosecute the case. If convicted of the various charges against them, the Atmore-Holman Brothers could receive -- added on to their current terms -- sentences ranging from 20 years to death.

The charges against the 11 defendants stem from two separate incidents earlier this year. On January 18, in protest of a beating of an IFA member by guards, a group of Atmore inmates took control of the segregation block. With two guards as hostages the inmates demanded the opportunity to present their grievances to the outside world and the news media.

Prison and state officials responded quickly, though, and in a brutal attack a prisoner and a guard were killed and several others inmates injured. George Dobbins, identified by the warden as leader of the protest, was reported killed by gunfire. But a later coroner's report "raised doubts."

According to the Mobile Register, the coroner concluded that Dobbins died of stab wounds so severe that he could not have lived more than a few minutes after receiving them. Similarly, according to inmate witnesses, Dobbins was wounded badly from shot gun blasts when he was loaded into an ambulance to be driven to a hospital in Mobile, 60 miles away.

In light of this, and the coroner report, inmates are charging that he was stabbed and killed between the time the ambulance left the prison and when it arrived at the hospital.

On March 12, another IFA member, Tommy Lee Dotson, died after being beaten by guards while handcuffed at Holman prison. Following the death, four inmates confined to the tier where the beating took place were charged with the murder of a guard.

According to prison officials, the four inmates somehow passed a knife down the row of cells to Dotson who was then supposed to have wrestled free from four guards and stabbed one of them, all while still handcuffed.

Inmates on the tier maintain that the elderly guard died of a heart attack while participating in the beating of Dotson. Witnesses who were in nearby cells also report having heard the warden say, "Go on and kill the nigger. This is one we won't have to worry about anymore."

While 45 inmates were originally indicted for

the two separate events, there have been no indictments relating to the deaths of Dobbins and Dotson.

With the Attorney General presenting the state's case, the Atmore-Holman Brothers have been assigned one public defender who continually refers to his clients as "the boys" while in the courtroom.

In addition, the trial is to be held in the isolated town of Brewton, which is near Atmore and Holman prisons and is the county seat of the last county in the nation to free its slaves.

In May the original 45 inmates from the two prisons were brought up on 80 different charges ranging from riot to first degree murder. The state, confronted with a lack of evidence, was forced to drop charges against all but the 11 Atmore-Holman Brothers. It is rumored, however, that, as in other cases, some of those who had their charges dropped have agreed to testify for the state as part of the deal.

The trial of the 11 was set to begin in June but the prosecution, surprised at the carloads of supporters who were rolling into town for the trial, neatly postponed the beginning of the trial. At the last minute, the Attorney General announced that he couldn't make it to court that day and the trial judge conveniently decided that it was a good time for summer vacation. As a result, the trial was postponed until October.

Members of the Atmore-Holman Brothers Defense Committee note that the importance of the trial is to take away the license of guards to kill activist inmates. Rumors of a "death list" at the two prisons became so widespread that the story finally broke in the establishment media, causing prison officials to issue a denial. Defense Committee members say, though, that such a death list does exist and that it contains the names of other IFA members.

* * *

Aid of all kinds is needed by the Atmore-Holman Brothers: Organizers, legal workers, lawyers, money. If you can help in any way, write: Atmore-Holman Defense Committee, IFA Defense Fund, 802 6th St. North, Birmingham, Alabama 35204 or Atmore-Holman Defense Committee, Legal Defense Fund, PO Box 10157, Prichard, Alabama 36610.

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BUTZ ON THE WORLD-WIDE FOOD CRISIS

WASHINGTON (LNS)--Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz recently suggested as a way to help the distribution of agricultural products to the world's countries that are desperately in need of food -- the elimination of half of America's pets.

Said Butz in a speech to the American Society of Animal Science, "If some of those ill-informed fuzzy-thinking do-gooders who suggest that we eat one less hamburger per week to release more foodstuffs to the world are really serious . . . they could make the first onslaught on this noble goal by reducing our dog and cat population by 50%."

Of course, Butz added, "I do not advocate such a thing."

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from: Eileen Whalen, SCEF, 3210 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky. 40211.

The Southern Patriot collective must expand if we are to continue serving the needs of the growing peoples' movements in the South. We need someone skilled in the technical aspects of producing a movement newspaper, and we need another roving correspondent. (These are duties that can be shared.)

Interested folk should be willing and able to work long hours at subsistence pay. Familiarity with the Southern movement is desirable, but not essential. If you are interested and if you agree with the SCEF and Patriot principles, write to the above address and send a carbon to Ken Lawrence, SCEF, Box 5174, Jackson, MS 39216.

* * *

from: Information and Resource Centre, 28 King St. Perth, Western Australia 6000.

We are an alternative library, source centre, news service, meeting and art exhibit place. We are reacting against the local claustrophobic press and culture monopolies. We stand for individual/minority liberation, anti-imperialism, co-operation, non-commercialization and alternative solutions. We need contacts and information and ideas. Please send us the papers, books, pamphlets etc. that you publish. Thanks.

* * *

from: The Gay Alternative, 232 South St., Phila., Pa. 19147.

The Gay Alternative, a magazine of Gay Liberation published in Philadelphia, is planning an issue devoted entirely to short fiction. The magazine's editorial group has recently announced its intention to feature one major piece of fiction and several shorter works in its 8th issue, slated for publication in November. "If you read Gay publications regularly, you find lots of essays, some poetry, but almost no fiction. We want to give writers of Gay fiction an outlet that currently doesn't seem to exist," says Dan Sherbo, a member of the GA Collective.

The magazine comes out quarterly and accepts articles dealing with the Gay experience. Send manuscripts to the above address.

* * *

from: Goddard/Cambridge, 5 Upland Rd., Cambridge, Mass. 02140. (617) 492-0700-01.

Cambridge-Goddard Graduate School for Social Change will be beginning its fifth year in the fall of 1974. We are a 12-month, accredited M.A. program of Goddard College. Students in our program enroll in one of some 30 projects, all of which attempt to provide a combination of theoretical and practical work. All of our projects are shaped by socialist and feminist perspectives, and we are committed to a perspective which sees the importance of our work in fostering individual growth and social change, and not just the mere accumulation of further knowledge.

Our projects cover a broad range of topics of

interest to socialists and feminists. One area of study is Imperialism and National Liberation Movements, with projects in Latin America, China, the Philippines, Indo-China and the Middle East. A second area is workplace and community organizing. Our Feminist Studies Program includes projects in the History of Women, Women and Corporate Power, Lesbian Culture, and many others. Finally, we have a wide variety of courses covering reform and revolutionary struggles in the arts, and in American institutions, such as prisons, education, mental health and others.

We will be accepting applications until Sept. for the 1974-75 year. For more information, contact the above address.

* * *

from: Libraire Des Femmes, 68 Rue de Saints-Pere, 75007 Paris, France.

A group of women from the French women's liberation movement have founded the first women's publishing house in France -- "Maison D'Edition Des Femmes," at 2, rue de la Roquette, Paris 75011, and on May 13 opened the first women's bookstore in Paris, Libraire Des Femmes.

We propose to publish women's revolts and struggles whether individual or collective and to provide an outlet for women's writings unavailable through commercial publishers. Seven books have been published so far and have already been widely reviewed by both literary and daily newspapers in Paris. Two more books will appear in the summer and five more in the fall.

Distribution to bookstores, a newspaper stands and supermarkets will be on a mass scale. The books are already available abroad and will soon be translated into English. We are planning a women's daily paper for next year. Anyone interested in our work, please write.

Also, our books are now available at Labyris Books, 33 Barrow St., New York, NY.

* * *

from: Common Sense, 1802 Belmont Rd., NW Washington DC 20009.

A Sustaining Fund can be roughly described as a cooperative or democratic organization which raises money through some sort of voluntary tax and one in which the taxpayers have a clear voice in determining how the fund will be spent. Activist groups have long recognized the paternalism and cooptation inherent in foundation funding. Ultimately that money is distributed as if by whim from above. The vain chase after foundation funds is debilitating and wasteful of energy. A Sustaining Fund is a method for a community to take serious responsibility for managing and sustaining itself.

Common Sense has put out a pamphlet which contains information about Sustaining Funds in the U.S. It talks about experiences in Eugene, Oregon, Ithaca, N.Y., Champaign County, Illinois, Madison, Wisconsin and Washington DC setting up the Fund. For more information, contact the above address for a copy of the pamphlet. It costs 10¢.

END OF RMBB FOR TODAY

PRISONER'S ACTION DEMANDS END TO
BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION TREATMENT IN U.S. PRISONS

LIBERATION News Service

MARION, Ill. (LNS)--After an action on July 31 to gain support for the abolition of "behavior modification" at the U.S. Penitentiary in Marion, Illinois, prisoner Eddie Sanchez faces charges of threatening a guard with bodily harm, possession of a deadly weapon, and possible conspiracy to mutiny.

"My act was solely political as I sought intervention by the public and high officials for the prisoners confined in . . . behavior modification [at Marion and] across the country." Seeking "prison exposure," Sanchez says "my trials will be political. My plea will be 'not guilty' on the grounds of 'irresistible urge' brought on by the urgency to the plight of prisoners confined in behavior modification programs."

Sanchez apparently tried to grab a guard and troops were brought in with guns, shields and gas, forcing him to surrender. In his cage -- a "behavior modification unit" -- were found a manifesto of demands and a knife -- but not gun. Officials claim that a gun was disassembled and flushed down the toilet before surrender.

Resistance to Marion's Control Unit Treatment Program for behavior modification grows. A complaint filed April 18 by the People's Law Office of the National Lawyers Guild, and the National Prison Project on behalf of the prisoners, is still pending.

The suit charges the penitentiary with discriminating against politically active prisoners -- Black Muslims, jailhouse lawyers and others -- who are labelled dangerous by prison authorities, and then isolated in behavioral control units. Usually no specific charges or any other due process safeguards are granted the prisoners.

The suit calls for immediate release of all prisoners from the unit, stating that the length and conditions of confinement constitute cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth Amendment.

Behavior modification is "designed to break their [prisoners'] wills and dignity as human beings and reduce them to mere robots," says Marion prisoner Alberto Mares, victim of the Control Unit Treatment Program. Those who become "very subtly processed and programmed to accept without resistance the authoritarian principles of prison administrators" are 'rewarded' by being allowed to re-enter the general prison population.

Those who refuse to conform to the prison's reward-and-punishment system of behavior modification are placed in sensory deprivation -- complete isolation for 23 and 1/2 hours a day, a technique used to "break" the will of the prisoner.

In the control unit, "the prisoner is being deprived of cultural and environmental contacts which tend to bring about organic changes, that is, degenerative changes in the nerve cells, which can result in death," notes Mares, "primarily because cultural and environmental contacts are essential to survival."

A statement written by three victims of the

Control Units at Marion explains that prisoners who resist the program and refuse to "turn into robots, will probably never leave prison alive."

A statement entitled "Social Control," recently written by the Federal Prisoners' Coalition at Marion explains what happened in July, 1972, when 140 prisoners participated in a non-violent work stoppage to protest the brutal beating of a Chicano prisoner by a guard who illegally carried a black-jack.

"Because of our participation in this work-stoppage our behavior was treated and conceived as abnormal and criminal in the minds of prison officials. Having arrived at this definition, these officials were able to avoid the real problem, which was brutality and oppressive prison conditions, and dismiss the prisoners' behavior as criminal. A prison work strike is a conflict of interest, that is, productivity and profit is reduced whenever the wheels of the prison's industry are stopped."

Labelling prisoners as "abnormal" and "criminal," the statement continues, also resulted in "brutal beatings and gassings, destruction of personal property, withholding of mail, long term solitary confinement, restricted visits both with attorneys and members of family who must visit in a specifically built glass partitioned visiting room over telephones, frequent anal inspections, to name a few of the various inhumane actions taken against the prisoner population for participation in the peaceful work stoppage."

In December, 1973, a year and a half after the strike, Curly Fee, a prisoner who had participated in the work stoppage, committed suicide as a result of his confinement in the "box car" -- a punitive segregation unit in the Long Term Control Unit at Marion.

Although a federal judge ordered, on February 2, 1974, that 75 of those confined since the work stoppage be released from the behavior control units, others still remain.

Another problem is that there are no safeguards to protect prisoners from unethical or illegal abuses, since the facts of behavior modification programs are hidden from the public.

One Marion prisoner describes the special show that is put on for visitors, for whom "steaks or fried chicken are always served with all the fancy trimmings. Prior to taking the inspectors or tourists inside the control units, prison guards are at times instructed to enter the control units and irritate and provoke the prisoners into hollering at them."

"Once this is done, the inspectors or tourists are rushed into the control units when the irritated and provoked prisoners are in the midst of a noise-making demonstration, and are told that the prisoners are maniacs that must be kept locked up in the control units. The one in charge of the tour may also say something like, 'Don't get too close to the bars, they'll reach out and try to grab you.'"

In attempts to alter "undesirable" behavior in federal and state prisons, federally funded research has gone on for years.

"We are a large organization with some 24,000 men in it now, with 31 different types of institutions and we have tremendous opportunity here to carry on some of the experimenting . . . " said James V. Bennett, then director of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, at its three-day seminar on behavioral change in 1962. "Undertake a little experiment with what you can do with the Muslims," he urged.

In response to Bennett's scheme, a psychiatrist at Southern Illinois University, Dr. Martin Groder, began the Asklepion Society -- the beginning of behavior modification at the Marion prison. The program included the use of "attack therapy that destroys the inmate's present self and molds him into a model prisoner," states a 1974 investigative report of the United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice.

Atlanta psychiatrist J. Denis Jackson observed the racist nature of the research, which intended to change "black prisoners into quasi-white men for the benefit of the prison system."

Women, as well as poor and Third World people, are particular targets for psycho-surgery, explains the Federal Prisoners' Coalition chapter at Marion. "Women in prisons are also vulnerable to these psychogenocide programs, mainly because public attention has been focused on men's prisons. Such neglect of women prisoners has given quack psychologists and doctors the opportunity to subject them to therapy and medical practices which are at best degrading but frequently destructive to mind and body."

Marion's Control Unit Treatment Program is one of a number of experimental behavior modification programs being funded by the federal government. In similar programs at other prisons, extensive use of drugs, techniques like electroshock, psychoconditioning and brain surgery are used on prisoners on a reward/punishment basis.

The program in Springfield, Missouri -- Special Treatment and Rehabilitative Training (START), has been abolished as a result of a successful lawsuit filed on behalf of prisoners by the National Prison Project in Washington DC.

But other programs continue and still more are being planned. The most notorious of these is the \$13.5 million Federal Center for Correctional Research, soon to be opened in Butner, North Carolina under the directorship of Martin Groder. "Activists and aggressive prisoners" from a 600-mile radius would be shipped to Butner to be remolded into "model prisoners." Public outrage has twice delayed the opening of the center. It was again denounced at a July 4 demonstration of 10,000 in Raleigh, N.C.

* * *

[Special thanks to Alberto Mares and Edward Sanchez for the information used in this article. Mares was released by court order from Control Unit Treatment Program at Marion. Sanchez desperately needs "legal help, publicity, support and solidarity!" He can be contacted at PO Box 1000, #18827-175, Marion, Illinois 62959.]

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[thanks to the Progressive for this short -> ->

7 SOUTH VIETNAMESE STUDENTS DENIED POLITICAL ASYLUM; FACE DEPORTATION HEARINGS IN L.A.

LOS ANGELES (LNS)--Seven South Vietnamese students who came to the U.S. five years ago on various scholarships programs sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development must appear for deportation hearings in Los Angeles August 15.

The seven -- two women and five men -- have been denied political asylum in the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service on advice from the U.S. State Department.

During the course of their studies in the U.S., the students have actively voiced their opposition to the Thieu regime. In June, 1972, when the U.S. drastically escalated its bombing of Vietnam, they, together with 14 other South Vietnamese students, went to the Saigon Consulate General in San Francisco to present a letter protesting the waves of repression then occurring in Saigon. The students have also participated in various anti-war educational activities.

Although the Paris Peace Agreement has been in existence for 18 months, the Vietnamese students point out that with massive U.S. military and economic aid, Thieu's repressive policies continue unabated. Thousands of people have been arrested and put in jail for advocating peace, national reconciliation and implementation of the Paris Peace Agreement. They join the thousands of political prisoners already imprisoned and subjected to inhuman living conditions and torture.

The Vietnamese students are certain that, should they be deported, they too will be imprisoned and possibly killed. Their deportation will be fought with two legal arguments -- the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act which states that "The Attorney General is authorized to withhold deportation of any alien within the U.S. to any country in which in his opinion the alien would be subject to persecution on account of race, religion or political opinion..." and also on the United Nations Convention on Refugees which was ratified by the U.S. Senate in 1968.

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***** HUGE WEALTH INEQUALITY IN U.S. DOCUMENTED IN NEW STUDY

NEW YORK (LNS)--An Urban Institute Study based on 1969 Internal Revenue statistics has revealed that the "Super Rich" who comprise only 4.4% of the adult population own an estimated 35.6% of the nation's wealth. This 4.4% owns:

- * 27% of all privately held real estate
- * 33% of cash holdings
- * 40% of non-corporate business assets
- * 63% of privately held corporate stock
- * 78% of state and local bonds
- * 74% of Federal bonds and securities other than savings bonds
- * 100% of corporate and foreign bonds and notes.

Furthermore, the study reveals that if the nation's total wealth of \$3.5 trillion had been divided evenly in America, every adult 21 or over would have possessed \$25,000 in net worth. In fact, however, the holdings of the super rich averaged slightly more than \$200,000 while an estimated half of the population, if they sold all of their assets and paid off all debts, would have been worth no more than \$3,000. --30--

(SEE GRAPHIC)

HEAVY FIGHTING IN SOUTH VIETNAM AS NLF RETAKES
STOLEN LAND; CONGRESS SLASHES PENTAGON AID TO SAIGON

LIBERATION News Service

NEW YORK(LNS)--Possibly the heaviest fighting since the January, 1973 Vietnam ceasefire is now raging in South Vietnam with the National Liberation Front (NLF) retaking some 300 Saigon army outposts illegally set up after the Paris Peace Agreement was signed. Most of the fighting is localized in the Da Nang-Quang Ngai area north of Saigon and in the Mekong Delta.

Observers point to the beginning of July as the start of the increased fighting. "In some ways I don't blame them, the Communists," said one Western diplomat quoted in the New York Times July 30. "At some point they say, 'Enough's enough.'"

The diplomat was referring to the countless seizures of Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) land which the Saigon army has carried out illegally since January, 1973.

Patricia and Earl Martin, who spent 1966-1969 in Quang Ngai province as representatives of the Mennonite Central Committee and then returned in January of this year to resume work with Vietnamese refugees, report that:

"Many Quang Ngai residents had expressed to us some surprise at the low level of PRG/NLF military and political activity in the year following the signing of the ceasefire accords. Even when areas long under their control were taken by ARVN(Army of the Republic of Vietnam) military activity, their response was comparatively minimal."

The Martins point to large areas of Quang Ngai province alone where land consistently controlled by the PRG since 1965 was taken by ARVN since the ceasefire. These areas, they report, include:

"a. The Nghia Thuan valley and the road to Minh Long District, not controlled by the RVN(Saigon) government since 1964, was taken by ARVN forces in July, 1973. Now at least six new ARVN outposts ring the valley and line the road to Minh Long. (One of these new outposts was recently retaken by the NLF in April of this year.)

"b. The whole eastern seaboard of Mo Duc District and northern Duc Pho District, not controlled by the RVN government since 1964, has been the scene of a major 'pacification' effort of three battalions of 2nd Division and Ranger forces. Since February of this year numerous outposts in this vast region have been established by the ARVN. The people who had been living in those areas have been screened and catalogued (some imprisoned) by the police and have been organized into a RVN administrative organization.

"c. Numerous other ARVN outposts have been established beyond the ceasefire perimeters of RVN control. Among these are outposts in western Son Tinh District, N.E. Binh Son District and west of National Highway Route 1 in Mo Duc and Duc Pho Districts."

The Martins also charge that refugees have not been allowed to return home when their homes have been in contested or PRG-controlled areas.

"While official (Saigon) pronouncements make much of "return to village" and "resettlement" programs, consistently those programs move people into

areas which have been secured under Saigon government control. Many people have wanted to return to their native farm sites even though they are under PRG control or in disputed areas, but they have been prevented from doing so by various pressures. Among them:

"PRG areas and disputed areas are still frequently shelled by ARVN artillery. The few brave--or desperately hungry--people who do move back to these areas clandestinely to farm have to sleep underground at night time to avoid being hit by this artillery. Occasional ARVN military patrols move through disputed areas, sometimes burning houses, sometimes arresting people."

Despite these blatant violations of the ceasefire agreement, Saigon and the U.S. embassy have been doing their best to convince Congress that the PRG has been planning major offensives and that the Pentagon's huge military requests for Indochina in fiscal year 1975 must be passed. But their tactics have not been particularly successful.

On August 6, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee released a staff report accusing the U.S. embassy, headed by Graham A. Martin, of mimicking the Saigon line and of fabricating reports to get Congress to increase U.S. aid to Saigon.

As a specific example, the Senate report cited the so-called Tong Le Chan incident, about a small Saigon post near the Cambodian border liberated in April after a prolonged siege of more than a year. On April 12, the Saigon government announced that a "massive" North Vietnamese attack using tanks had overrun the entire garrison.

Within a few days, the Senate report noted, it was widely known in Saigon--and reported in the American press--that the government had withdrawn voluntarily without losing a man. The PRG also said no battle had been fought. According to the report, however, the embassy in Saigon was reporting to Washington as late as April 24 on the "bombardment and fall" of Tong Le Chan.

The study said that many diplomats in Saigon believe that the Tong Le Chan incident and others were "part of a deliberate effort by the Saigon Government assisted by the U.S. Embassy to impress the U.S. Congress of the necessity to authorize additional military assistance for South Vietnam."

But Saigon and the White House failed in their designs despite last minute personal lobbying by Secretary of State Kissinger and Ambassador Martin. Also on August 6, the House reduced the Pentagon's Indochina budget request from \$1.6 billion to \$700 million by a fairly significant vote of 214 to 186.

During the current fighting, Saigon has carried out frequent bombing missions against PRG-held territory. On August 6, for instance, the Vietnam News Agency reported that the South Vietnamese Air Force flew 40 bombing sorties over Loc Ninh, dropping munitions and napalm on populated sections of the town such as the marketplace. Dozens of civilians were killed and more than 100 wounded. Property losses were estimated at 80%.

But despite these attacks, all indications are that the NLF is on top of the fighting, succeeding in their attempts to regain their territory. "The Communists have been too good for them," said one informed Western military official quoted by the New York Times. "They're too well dug in."

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(Thanks to Internews, the Guardian and the Martins.)

(see graphics to go with this article and packet #592 for more background on the Leavenworth Brothers)

LEAVENWORTH BROTHERS BEGIN TRIAL "GOVERNMENT TRYING TO RAILROAD A CONVICTION"

WITCHITA, Kansas(LNS)--The trial of four of the Leavenworth Brothers began July 29 and already there are signs that the government, in the words of one defendant, is trying to "railroad" a conviction.

It has been over a year since prisoners at the U.S. Federal Penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas staged a brief rebellion in a desperate attempt to make public the injustices of prison life. Seven months later, seven prisoners were indicted for the revolt.

July 29, the trial began for four of these defendants--Jesse Lee Evans, Alf Hill Jr., Odell Bennett, and Alfred Jasper--all black. Jesse Lopez and Armando Miramon, the two Chicano defendants go to trial August 12.

William Hurst, the only white prisoner indicted, was found dead in his prison cell May 9, 1974. Although authorities have said his death was a suicide, shortly before his death Hurst wrote that he feared for his life.

The first week of the trial ended with the selection of an all-white jury, whose average age is forty-five.

Even before the results of the jury selection, the defense committee had charged that the prisoners could not possibly get a fair trial because of the court's denial of sufficient time for the defense attorneys to prepare their case.

Defense attorneys had requested a two month continuance of the July 29th trial date, pointing out that they were moved out of solitary confinement after 11 months.

Furthermore, the defense argued that they only had just received--from the government--July 15--a list of 300 prospective witnesses who they need time to interview. The government, on the other hand, has had over a year to prepare its case.

Despite these problems, Judge Frank Theis concluded that there were no grounds for delay, asserting, "The trials will move ahead as scheduled."

The judge's denial of the continuance request prompted angry, disgusted responses from the defendants.

"I want to leave," asserted Odell Bennett. "I do not wish to dignify these 'railroad' proceedings with my presence...You are forcing us to trial."

Alfred Jasper also requested to be removed, stressing that since his own attorney was ill and could not be at the trial until mid-August, the denial of a continuance forced him to rely on a court-appointed counsel who was not familiar with his case.

"I've only talked to him once," Jasper told

the court, "I do not have the attorney of my choice, therefore I do not wish to participate in this 'frame-up'."

Both Bennett and Jasper are no longer in the courtroom. They now watch their trial on closed circuit television from their detention cells.

The first week of the trial also had its portion of harassment when elaborate security measures were taken by the court. To prevent conversation, attorneys and their clients were seated at opposite ends of the tables rather than side by side.

When Attorney Albert Riederer wanted to talk to his client Alf Hill, he had to ask to exchange places with defendant Alfred Jasper. When Hill rose, however, one of the 15 U.S. marshalls in the courtroom shoved him back onto his seat. When Hill rose again, along with defendants Evans and Jasper, marshalls rushed the three and a fight broke out.

Marshalls carried Evans and Hill from the courtroom with a twisting choke hold.

The remainder of the week involved jury selection. Although the Wichita area has a large number of black and Chicano people, there were only three blacks and no other third world people among the 92 member jury pool.

"How would you like to be tried by a black jury, a black judge, and a black prosecutor?" Bennett asked Judge Theis, remarking on the absence of blacks in the jury pool.

And defendant Hill charged, "There is no reason in the world there aren't more blacks on the panel."

Judge Theis replied, "I don't agree with you."

Of the three blacks on the panel, all were called for questioning but none made it on to the jury. Two black women disqualified themselves stating that a lifetime of oppression and experiences involving Blacks unjustifiably charged prevented them from being impartial.

However, the third black prospective juror stated that he could be fair regardless of race. The first opportunity the government had to exercise a preemptory (without cause) challenge, Assistant U.S. Attorney Bruce Miller disqualified him from the jury.

Immediately defendant Hill walked to the courtroom lectern and began addressing the court:

"The last four or five days, we have been talking about racism and racial prejudice, . . . I know everyone in this court is tired of hearing about racism, but I've been hearing about it all of my life."

At this point Judge Frank Theis interrupted saying, ". . . the government has a right to challenge anyone they choose."

"I understand that," countered Hill, "But I have a right to a trial by a jury of my peers."

"I've never lived in a white neighborhood. My peers are black."

* * * * *

For further information contact: The Leavenworth Brothers Offense/Defense Committee, P.O. Box 5818, Kansas City, Missouri 64111. or (816) 753-1619

FASCIST BOMB KILLS 12 ON TRAIN IN ITALY
"FOR A GREAT, FASCIST AND NAZI ITALY"

BOLOGNA, Italy (LNS)--A powerful bomb explosion ripped through the crowded Rome-Munich express train August 4 leaving four people dead and 48 injured. A clandestine extreme right-wing group, Ordine Nero--Black Order--has taken credit for the disaster.

A typed message left in a Bologna telephone booth stated that the explosion "demonstrated to the nation that we are in a position to put bombs where we want, at any time and in any place, when and where we feel like."

The train filled to capacity was running about thirty minutes late when the bomb went off. Many speculated that it was timed to explode in the Bologna station, the next stop. Police said that an explosion of such magnitude at a crowded station would have been an overwhelming disaster.

Bologna, known as the "red city," is one of the largest centers of leftist activity in Italy, and it seems clear that the extreme right meant the bomb to explode in the heartland of the left. The explosion, which occurred while many of the passengers slept, was also timed for a night when many people would be travelling--at the height of the holiday season. Most of the dead and injured were either on vacation or workers returning to jobs in West Germany.

The Black Order claiming responsibility for the Bologna bombing was the successor to the Ordine Nuovo--the New Order which was banned last November and a number of its members jailed.

Their message claimed that the attempt at dissolving the organization had been a failure. "The Nazi banner," it continued "did not die in Berlin in distant 1945: it continues to live for a great, Fascist and Nazi Italy."

The message said that the Italian President, Minister of the Interior and the head of the Communist Party must bear responsibility for the bombing because, by dissolving right wing organizations, it said, they "were placing Italy under Marxism."

The three main trade union organizations called on workers throughout the country to strike on August 5 in protest against those who "sow terror and death in our country." The unions said the train attack was "part of the fascist's criminal, subversive plans."

For the past year, Italian officials have been investigating extreme right-wing activity in the country, particularly in the north. In January, several high army officers were mentioned in an investigation of a secret neo-fascist network conspiring to overthrow the government. The conspirators were said to have been backed by wealthy industrialists and businessmen, and there were reports that huge secret funds were at the group's disposal, mostly in Swiss banks.

In April of 1972, evidence came to light that

the Greek military junta had helped to finance and train an underground fascist network operating inside Italy.

There have been over 400 attempted bombings by the right-wing in Italy in the last five years. Over 60 people have died and over four hundred have been injured.

A high-explosive bomb at an anti-fascist rally in the northern city of Brescia in May left six dead and 94 injured. In protest, a general strike was called all over the country and thousands participated in anti-fascist demonstrations in many cities.

In December 1969, seventeen people were killed and seventy injured by a bomb which exploded in a crowded Milan bank. It was the worst bombing in Italy since World War II. An anarchist was immediately blamed for the bombing and spent over three years in prison before an independent inquiry revealed that neo-fascists were actually responsible for the blast. This was not the first time that anarchists had been blamed for such actions.

And in July 1970, six people died and 129 were injured when a train was derailed in southern Italy after a stretch of track was sabotaged.

After each fascist bombing there has been a national outcry against the violent tactics of the extreme right. Each time police have said they were cracking down on "subversive organizations" but so far no arrests have been made for the train explosion or the Brescia bombing.

Any attempt to reconstitute the Fascist Party, which Mussolini led during the 1920s and 1930s, is against Italian law. However, at present, Giorgio Almirante, leader of the neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement, is under investigation in connection with this very law, but hearings are enmeshed in procedural wrangling.

Many Italian anti-Fascist groups have accused the Italian Social Movement of being behind the bombings, but Almirante has disclaimed any involvement in them.

The Bologna train explosion seems to be another attempt to weaken further the democratic structures in Italy and make it impossible for the present government, a coalition of moderate and leftist parties, to govern.

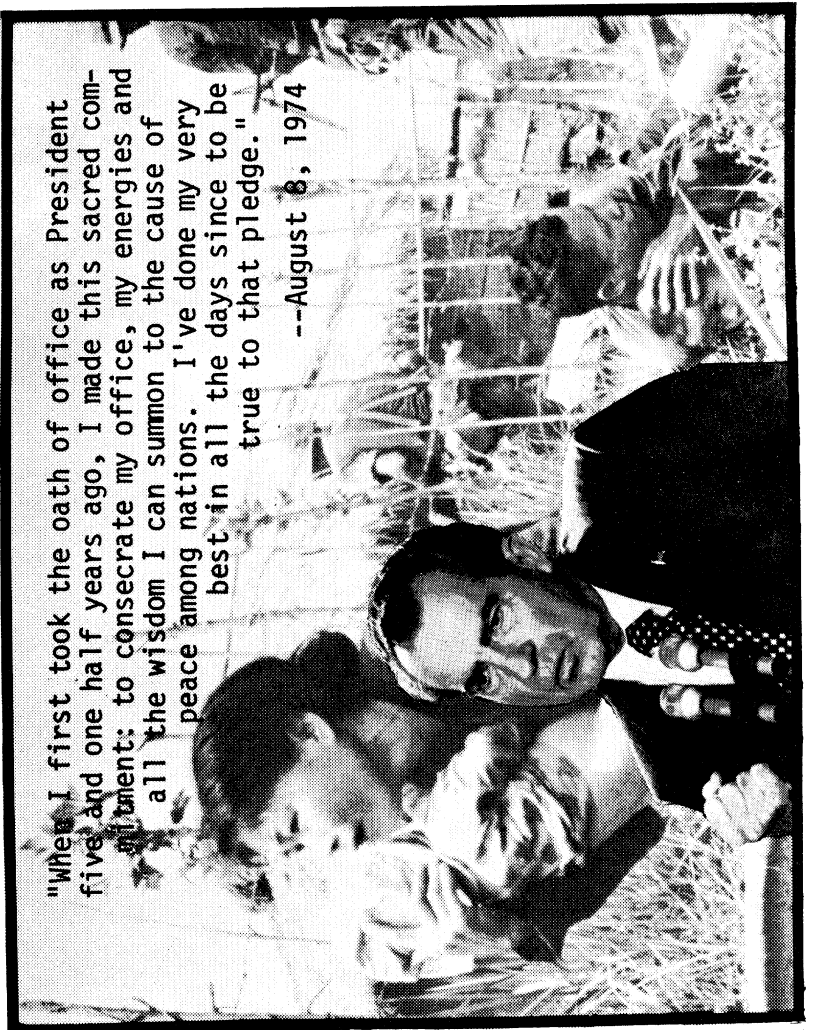
Some observers in Europe feel that such actions only strengthen the ties between moderates and the left against the extreme right. However, some anti-fascist groups to the left of the parties represented in the government, have accused the ruling Christian Democrats, Italy's largest party, of planning the bombings.

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"Exaggerated concern about police barging into private homes is completely unfounded in the accumulated experience of 29 States. Authority to enter a premises in exigent circumstances without first knocking is often essential to the life and safety of an officer or the preservation of critical evidence."

Gerald Ford speaking in favor of no-knock entry, July 15, 1970.



★★★★
FINAL

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER ©

15¢

Vol. 86, No. 89 NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017, Friday, August 9, 1974* WEATHER: Partly cloudy, windy and mild.

NIXON RESIGNS

***Acts in 'Interest of Nation,'
Asks for End to Bitterness***

***Ford Will Take Oath at Noon,
Kissinger Agrees to Stay On***

Special 8-Page Pullout; Stories Start on Page 2



GRAPHIC CREDITS FOR THIS PAGE

You can cut these out and paste them with the graphic they refer to. See the back of this page for proper placement.

CRAWDADDY/LNS LNS WOMEN'S GRAPHICS

TOP RIGHT: Nixon, a quote from his resignation speech, and the reality of Nixon's "office, energy, & wisdom."

CREDIT: LNS Women's Graphics

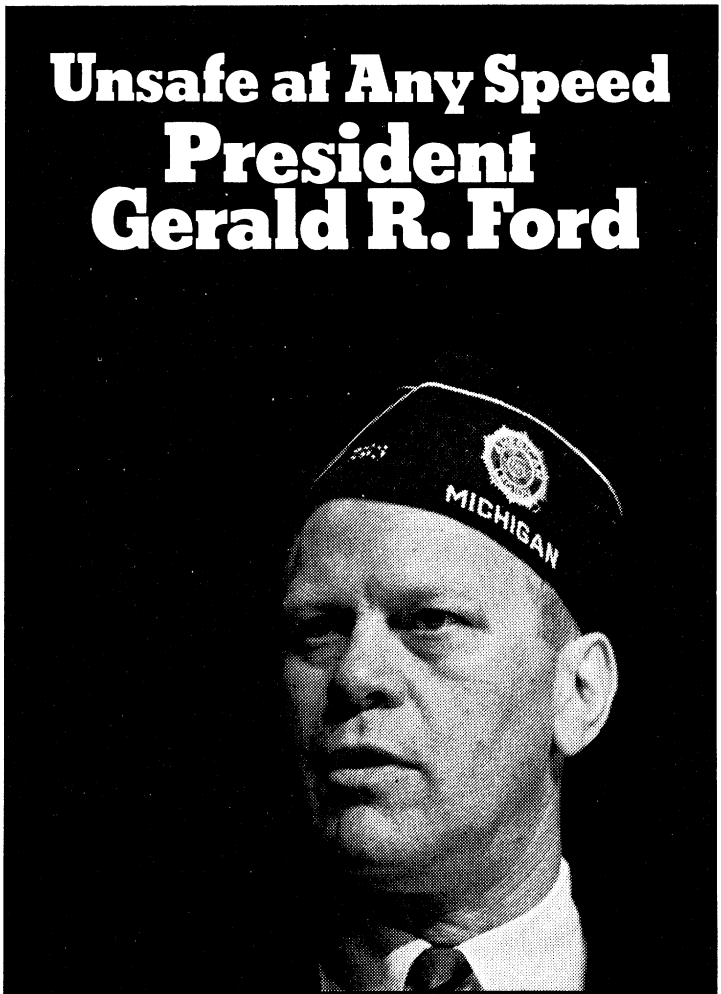
TOP LEFT: Now-President Ford holding model of Capitol building.

GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: CRAWDADDY & LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT: Nixon showing Ford the way.
CAN GO WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.

BOTTOM LEFT: Daily News, Aug. 9, 1974.
CAN GO WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.



GRAPHIC CREDITS FOR THIS PAGE

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BULLETIN POPULAIRE/LNS Robert Pelletier

LNS

Leavenworth Brothers Offense-Defense Committee/LNS

TOP RIGHT: Cover reprint.

GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 1.

CREDIT: LNS (With thanks to CRAWDADDY)

TOP LEFT: Four Leavenworth brothers who are being tried for a prison rebellion last year at the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. They are (from left to right) Alf Hill, Odell Bennett, Jesse Lopez, and Alfred Jasper. Three of these are on trial now; another trial with Lopez and another brother will start in a week.

GOES WITH STORY ON PAGE 9.

CREDIT: Leavenworth Brothers Offense-Defense Committee/LNS

BOTTOM RIGHT CREDIT: BULLETIN POPULAIRE/LNS

BOTTOM LEFT: This can go with the short on page 7.

CREDIT: Robert Pelletier